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THE OBSERVATOR.

The Observator *Charged with Aſperſing the* Jews. *His Vindication.*

From Saturday June the 5th, to Wednesday June the 9th, 1703.

Country-m. MR. *Obſervator*, there are a great many People at *London* are diſſatisfy'd with what you have ſaid in relation to the *Jews*, and among them, ſome Honeſt well-meaning Men; here is a Letter from one of them which was left for you at the *Printers*: Pray Read it, and give me your Opinion upon it.

Obſ. No one does deny the *Jews* were formerly Gods peculiar People; but the *Jews* themſelves do own that their Fore-Fathers did, after an Ignominious manner, Crucify the Perſon acknowledged by all Chriſtians to be the Lord and Saviour of all Mankind; for which Act they were by the Juſtice and Vengeance of the Almighty caſt out from the Land of their Nativity, and made Fugitives and Vagabonds on the Earth. They are under the Curſe of God, and we are Taught not to Bleſs any thing which God has Curs'd: Read their Character *Acts* 14. 1. *Rom.* 20. 23. 30. *Heb.* 4. 6. 11. *John* 1. 5. *Mat.* 8. 12.

To come nearer the Point with theſe Charitable *Chriſtians*, let me ſet their *Gratitude* againſt their *Charity*. Suppoſe your Father had been Murder'd by villanous Hands, would you entertain the Murd'rer in your Houſe, and let him partake of the Proviſion for your Family? I am ſure if you did ſo, every Honeſt Man would juſtly reflect on you for an Unnatural Brute. Now our Bleſſed Saviour has done more for you than the Father which got you, or the Mother which bore you, or than all your Relations and Friends: They were kind to you by an Impulſe of Nature, which forces every Creature to take care of its own; but the Love of our Saviour was free and unconſtrain'd, and nothing but the miſerable Eſtate of Mankind could move him to Compaſſion; and will you reward this Tranſcendent Love of his with the baſeſt Ingratitude, in harbouring, cheriſhing, and nouriſhing, thoſe Execrable Wretches who Murdered your deareſt Friend? For his Blood is on the Children of thoſe that did it. *Mat.* 27. 25. And is not the hatred of the *Jews* at this time as great againſt our Bleſſed Saviour, as at the time of his Crucifixion? They call him the Son of an Adultereſs, an Impoſtor, a Cheat; and they call us Dogs, Idolaters; and pronounce us all damn'd. I don't know what our *Chriſtian Turks* who vindicate their Brethren the *Jews* may think of this, but ſure I am no one who loves our Saviour *Jeſus Chriſt* in Sincerity and Uprightneſs of Heart, can have any Love for his Inveterate Enemies.

Another Reaſon is here urged in favour of the *Jews*, that God has promiſed yet to call them, and that they will be Converted, in his good time, to the Chriſtian Faith.

The Promiſes of God are always ſure: The Everlaſting Covenant cannot be broken, becauſe it is ratified and confirmed by Him who is Truth and Faithfulneſs it ſelf. I do verily believe that the *Jews* will be Converted, but *When*, or *Where*, is uncertain: I don't find the leaſt hint in Scripture, that it ſhall be done in *England*; but its moſt probable in *Judea*, and by keeping them in *England*, we keep them a great way from the Place of their Converſion: Beſides, according to the Scriptures, the *Gentiles* are to be the firſt Converted; and ſo if *England* is to have any part in the Converſion, we ought to expel the *Jews* and take in the *Gentiles*, according to the Precedency in Scripture.

There is little hopes that the *Chriſtians* ſhould Convert *Jews* by Arguments and Reaſons, who have been hardned in unbelief above 1700 Years. If thoſe Terrible and Amazing Arguments of the Almighty at the Crucifixion of our Saviour could not Convince their Fore-Fathers, when the Vail of the Temple was rent in Twain from the Top to the Bottom; when the Earth did quake, and the Rocks were rent in peices; when the Graves delivered up their Dead, and the bodies of Sleeping Saints aroſe and appear'd in the holy City: If they would not believe the words of the Almighty when he Spake in Thunder, will they believe the ſoft and low Voice of Man?

The pretence of Converting the *Jews*, is the weakeſt Reaſon that can be for Tolerating them in *England*; where one of them has been Converted to the *Chriſtian-Faith*, ten *Chriſtians* have been Perverted to *Judaiſm*; and a *Converted Jew* makes but a very indifferent ſort of *Chriſtian*; as we find by *Aron de Almanza*, an Account of whoſe Converſion is now ſo much Bawl'd about the Streets; for he ſays, at his Renunciation of *Judaiſm*, *That he had rather remain a* Jew, *than become a* Calviniſt.

If the Converſion of the *Jews* were rightly conſidered; we find that their *Rabbies* can give Diſpenſations as well as the *Pope*; and many of them Conform to the *Church of England* for Intereſt. I am told, That *Francia* the *Jew*, lately Deceaſed, was admitted a Freeman, if not a Livery-Man, in a certain Company in *London*; which, if true, I know what the Law ſays of that Companies *Charter*. And this *Francia* being a Freeman, Entred the other *Jews* Goods at the *Cuſtom-Houſe*, in his own Name, and thereby the Queen loſt the *Aliens Duty*.

Indeed it is wonderful, that ſuch as call themſelves *Chriſtians*, ſhould Encorporate, or have any Commerce with the *Jews*. According to the *Laws* of *God*, and the *Cuſtom* of the *Jews*, they could have no Dealings with the *Samaritans*, as appears by St. *John* 4. 9. *Luke* 9. 51. 52. 53. But I find we have very few *Samaritans* in *England*, the more is the pity. Our Men can *Trade*, and our Women *Cohabit* with

with the *Jews* contrary to the Laws of the Land, and to the Scandal of Chriſtianity. A certain noted Perſon in the City of *London* had, not long ago, a *Jew* ſtood as *Godfather* to his Child, and gave it a *Chriſtian Name*; and according to the uſage of the Church of *England* in Baptiſm, the *Jew* did Promiſe that he would provide that the Child Should learn the *Creed*, the *Lords-Prayer*, and the *Ten Commandments* in the *Engliſh* Tongue, *&c.*

This Gentleman who accuſes me of *Perſecution*, is wonderfully miſtaken both in the *Perſon* and the *Thing*: I was ever an utter Enemy to any thing of that Nature. I dont talk of *Perſecuting men for Conſcience Sake*, but of putting the wholſome Laws of the Realm in Force againſt ſuch as are *Enemies to all Religion and Goverment*, as are the *Jews* and *Papiſts*. The *Jews* ſtrike at the *Foundation* of our Religion, the *Lord Jeſus*, the Corner Stone of our Faith: the *Popiſh Religion* Teacheth the *Papiſts* to merit Salvation by *Cutting our Throats*, which makes the State Unſafe where they are. Perſecution relates only to things *Indifferent*, which are not the Neceſſary Terms of *Communion*; and not to ſuch Principles as *Deſtroy* both Law and Goſpel, and which ought to be puniſhed by the Civil Magiſtrate.

The moſt provident Charity looketh at home; We muſt not ſuffer the antient Laws of our Realm to Languiſh under this Burden of an *Inconſiderate Compaſſion*. I muſt ſay to theſe Compaſſionate Gentlemen (tho' with Juſter Ground of Reaſon) as the Jews ſaid to *Pilate*, relating to our *Saviour*; *We have a* Law, and by *Our* Law *he ought to Dye*: St. *John* 19: 7. And theſe Laws of ours are founded upon the higheſt Reaſon, and are in every thing Suited to the Realms Good.

I would fain know of theſe *Jewiſy'd Chriſtians*, if I were Indicted for *Blaſphemy*, and they were my Jury, whether upon plain Proof they would not find me Guilty, and Rejoyce to ſee my Tongue Boared thro' with a Hot Iron, as the Law directs? The *Jews* are by Law already convicted of the moſt horrid Blaſphemies; and why ſhould theſe People endeavour to ſcreen them from the Law? Certainly we are the conſtant Objects of the *Mirth* and *Laughter* of the Foreign *Papiſts* and *Jews*, who come into our Country, and ſee us *worrying* and *Ruining one another* by thoſe very Laws, which were *made againſt themſelves*, and yet never reach them.

I believe one great Reaſon of the *Jews* Readmiſſion into *England*, after the Act for their entire Expulſion, was the *Connivance* of the *Miniſters* and *Judges* of the Realm, they being *Bought* off from their Duty to their *Country* by the Bribes of the Jews. The *Shekel* of the Synagogue, and the *Piſtoles* of *France* are as readily receiv'd by *Corrupt Judges* and *Miniſters*, as is the Current Coin of the Kingdom. And to ſhew you that I don't talk without Book, I will give you an Inſtance hereof in the Reign of *Edw.* 1. when Judgment paſs'd againſt ſeven corrupt Judges, who were ſent Priſoners to the *Fleet*; four of which paid 40 Thouſand Marks Fine to the King, and more; beſides Veſſels of Gold and Silver; and the other three were Baniſhed. Take the very Words of the Record, in *Anno* 1288. *In Carceratis Juſti-orum Domini Regis, Scilicet*, Tho. *de* Wey-Johan. *de* Lovelot, Gulielmi *de* Bramp-Adee *de* Stratton, *de quo Dominus Rex* h *Quadraginta Mille Marcas, et amplius, præter aurea, & argentea. Ad Fletam Diſſertatio Seldenum.* cap. 20. pag. 549. *Stow Anno*, 1 'A Sum of Money, ſays a Judicious Au 'in that Age more than 500000*l* in this if thoſe Judges had not that Sum, they could have paid it; and their *Having* and *Paying* much, confirms the Corruption whereof were convicted.

Our Fore-Fathers found reaſons Sufficient Puniſh the *Jews*, and that for the moſt ho *Crimes*, beſides *Blaſphemy*. In the Year 1 *Ralph* and *Samuel*, two *Jews*, made a Diſcov of 18 *Chriſtian* Children Stolen and Crucif on *Good-Frydays* by the *Jews*, for which ſe ral of them were Executed, and Confeſs'd ſame at their Deaths. In the Year 1235 t Stole and Crucify'd a Child at *Norwich*; which Deed, in the Year 1243, thoſe *Jews* p K. *Henry* 50000 Marks in Silver, and 400 M in Gold; beſides what others paid to ſave t Lives. There is a whole *Legend* of the D and Miracles of a Child called *Robert*, which *Jews* Crucify'd at St. *Edmonds-bury*. They the like in *Henry* the 2ds. Reign, at *Glouceſt* As alſo at *Norwich*, in King *Stephens* Reign, *Brampton*, *Knigbton*. *Mat. Weſt*, 1148 *Page*

In the Year 1250, *Henry* the 3d Convic the Jews of *Clipping*: To the Number of 300 them acknowleged the Fact, whereof Four were Hanged, the reſt bought themſelves o *Anno* 1253 they Stole a Charter, whereby t *Abbot* and *Convent* of St. *Albans* were diſcharg from a great Debt. In the ſame year the Je had prepared Wildfire, and other Combuſtible matter, at *Northampton*, to Burn the Cit *London*; for which, about 40 of them were Burnt. In the Year 1259 they made a Plot t Poyſon all the Barons; and the Poyſonous Liquor wherewith it was to be effected, was found in the Houſe of one *Elias* a Jew, who Confeſſed the Fact at his Execution; for which 700 Jews were ſlain in *London*. And in the Year 1266. The Jews were kill'd at *Lincoln*; their *Synagogue*, and the *Book* of their *Law* were Burnt.

I tell thee, Honeſt *Country-man*, I am not for ſuch *Bloody Sacrifices*; we have a Law to keep them out of the Land, which, if Executed, will prevent *our Loſs of Wealth* and *their Loſs of Blood*. And pray tell the *Compaſſionate Chriſtians* at *London*, that I believe if the Government would encourage Enquiries, the Jews at preſent in *England* may be Convicted of the ſame Crimes I before mentioned.

WHereas the Author of this *Paper* has received ſeveral Accounts of the late Evil practiſes of the *Jews* in *England*, he deſires the Perſons that ſend in ſuch Accounts to get them Atteſted in the beſt manner that can be, he being unwilling to Miſrepreſent the Actions of the greateſt Blaſphemers.

Yeſterday was Publiſhed

THE preſent Danger of *Popery* in *England*. Shewing, 1. The Strength of the *Engliſh Papiſts* at Home and Abroad. 2. An Account of their *Religious-Houſes* in Foreign parts and in *England*. 3. An Abſtract of the Laws in Force againſt *Papiſts*. 4. Reaſons for putting theſe Laws in Execution. 5. A Propoſal for the ſame. *Price* 6*d*. Sold by *J. How*, at the *Seven Stars* in *Talbot-Court* in *Grace-Church-Street*; and by *B. Bragg*, at the *Blew-Ball* in *Avemary-Lane*.

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